

Appl. No. 10/809,696
Amendment dated June 29, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 27, 2005

REMARKS

In the June 27, 2005 Office Action, claims 1-22 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. However, the drawings, the specification and claims 11 and 17 were objected to for minor informalities. No other objections or rejections were made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the March 18, 2005 Office Action, Applicants have drawings, the specification and amended claims 11 and 17 to corrected the minor errors in the claims. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. Thus, claims 1-22 are pending, with claims 1 and 22 being the only independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of above amendments and the following comments.

Drawings

In numbered paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR §1.121(d) because of a wrong reference numeral. In response, Applicants submit herewith a Replacement Drawing Sheet that corrects the reference numeral "24c" to "24a". Applicants believe that the drawings now comply with 37 CFR §1.121(d). Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections.

Specification

In numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the specification was objected to for a typographical error. In response, Applicants have amended the specification to correct the typographical errors. Applicants believe that the specification is now correct. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

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Claim Objections

In numbered paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Office Action, claims 11 and 17 were objected to for minor typographical errors. In response, Applicants have amended claims 11 and 17 to correct the minor typographical errors. Applicants believe that claims 11 and 17 are now correct. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

In numbered paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18-22 were allowed, while claims 11 and 17 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter but objected to due to minor informalities. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application.

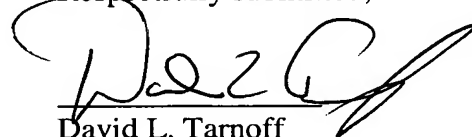
Prior Art Citation

In the Office Action, additional prior art references were made of record. Applicants believe that these references do not render the claimed invention obvious.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-22 are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheet of Figure 8 changes the reference numeral "24c" on the left-hand side of the drawing to "24a". This replacement sheet, which includes Figure 8, replaces the original drawing sheet including Figure 8.

Attachment: one (1) replacement sheet